some of the actively traded crude oils and percentage increase/decrease during the last three years is indicated below:

(Figures in $per bl.)

	Dubai	% increase/ decrease	Oman	% increase/ decrease	Suez Blend	% increase/ decrease
1986.	12.97		13.35		12.73	
1987.	16.92	(+)30%	17.25	(+)29%	16.79	(+)32%
1988.	13.22	(—)22%	13.57	(—)21%	12.95	(—)23%

(b) The import of crude oil is made to meet the gap between indigenous production and demand. The domestic production of crude oil, the quantity imported and the value thereof during the last hree calendar years are given below:

Quantity: Million tonnes
Value : Rs./crores

Year	Domestic Production of crude oil	Import of crude oil	
		Quantity	Value
1986.	31.16	14.48	2070
1987.	30.14	17.98	3105
1988 (Provisional)	31.58	17.71	2811

(c) The prices of petroleum products are not generally revised with changes in the prices of crude oil in the international market. The prices are developed with reference to a system of retention prices of the different refineries.

There is no proposal to reduce the prices of petrol, diesel and kerosene oil.

Projected crude oil production target

2892. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that over spending of the planned outlay by the petroleum sector during the Seventh Plan, the projected crude oil production target is not likely to be achieved and that huge quantities of natural gas would continue to be flared;

(b) if so, what is the percentage of over spending in the planned outlay for petroleum stctor during the Seventh Plan;

(c) what is the percentage by which the crude oil output is anticipated to fall short of the target stating the reasons therefor;

(d) what is the percentage of the natural gas being flared annually, and

(e) what action has been taken by Government to improve the performance of the petroleum sector in the country and also to overcome the

limitations to minimise the flaring of natural gas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) to (c) During the Seventh Plan period, the estimated expenditure so far by the petroleum sector comes to about 97 per cent of the planned outlay. From the present estimates it appears that by and large the target of crude oil production will be fulfilled. Flaring of gas, as percentage of production, has in fact come down from over 40 per cent at the start of the Seventh Plan to about 30 per cent, at present.

(d) During 1987-88, the percentage of natural gas flared out of the total production was about 30 per cent.

(e) Action taken by Government to improve the performance of the petroleum sector includes, among others, the following:—

(i) To draw plans for more intensive and extensive exploratory effort.

(ii) To absorb and apply appropriate technology, both in exploration and in production, for obtaining better results.

(iii) Putting the discoveries on production in the shortest possible time.

(iv) To improve and augment the infrastructure for transportation of crude oil and gas.

(v) A more effective reservoir management for arresting any decline in the matured fields.

(vi) Quick liquidation of the sickness of the wells.

(vii) Augmentation of refining capacity in step with the growing demand for petroleum products.

(viii) Improving the yield pattern at the refineries so as to maximise the yield of valuable distillate products.

(ix) Reducing the fuel and less consumption at the refineries.

(x) Augmentation of tankage and infrastructural facilities for product distribution to meet the growing demand.

Steps initiated to minimise the flaring of natural gas are:

(i) additional commitments to take care of any possible failure by the regular consumers to take the gas,

(ii) supply of the gas on a fall-back basis at 15 per cent discount, and

(iii) arrangement for installation of additional compression facilities to increase the quantity of gas for useful consumption.

पी०टी०ए० और डी०एम०टी० की कीमतें

2893. **श्री राम जेठमलानी** : क्या उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि हाल ही मे पीटीए और डीएमटी की कीमतों में वृद्धि की घोषणा की गई है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या इस मूल्य वृद्धि के परिणामस्वरूप पालिएस्टर स्टेपल फाइबर तथा यार्न उद्योग पर आर्थिक भार और बढ़ गया है;

(ग) क्या इस उद्योग को उक्त आर्थिक भार से बचाने के लिए इसे कच्चे माल का आयात करने की सुविधाएं प्रदान करने और इस उद्योग को कुछ छूट देने के लिए तत्काल कोई व्यवस्था की जा रही है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध मे ब्योरा क्या है?